

# Minutes



**Tuesday, October 9th, 2018  
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Haley Thorson, Kailee Dvorak, Sarah Odegard, Michelle Earl, Leanne Kilzer, Bethany Satrom & Keith Westerfield

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Haley welcomed everyone.

## **II. “Project 19” Updates- Tobacco Free ND (TFND) Resolution of Support:**

TFND is seeking resolutions of support for raising the price of tobacco and the Coalition is considering signing one. They are still working on the language for a legislature bill, and we have not seen a draft yet. According to TFND, the bill would propose raising the tobacco tax by \$1.50 per pack. The resolution would advocate for a price increase. The GFTFC members present discussed and approved of supporting and signing the TFND Resolution of Support document.

The FDA is finally holding big-tobacco’s ‘feet to the fire’ regarding the skyrocketing use of their e-cig products (especially the Juul product). Big-tobacco claims they are not targeting youth and are not to blame for the increase in youth use rates. Grand Forks High-School use rate ranked the highest of ND’s eight regions for e-cigs tobacco use; at 25 percent compared to 19 percent for rest of state U.S. rate of e-cig usage is decreasing nationally, but ND’s rate is increasing.

## **III. Legislative Breakfast**

The Tobacco Prevention Team, along with GFPH and GFTFC, has organized a breakfast to be held after the election and will take place in the morning at GFPHD on November 20th. This is a great opportunity to meet the newly-elected legislators, introduce yourself and let them know where you work and you are interested in important topics such as tobacco prevention. The breakfast will be hosted by GFPHD, so other issues will be discussed, but one of PH priorities will be the price of tobacco products. ND Legislators, GF area legislators (in districts 17-20 & 42-43) are being invited, along with GFPHD staff, and GFTFC members. Invites will be ready to send out right after the elections. One of the main goals of the breakfast is for the legislators to place a face with the name, so when the time comes and they have questions, they know who to call.

## **IV. Member Sharing**

Haley – The ND Dept. of Health was able to secure a grant from Dept. of Human Services (administered at the local level). The SYNAR Grant will fund spot checks of a third to half of tobacco retailers to ensure compliance by the GFPHD for enforcement of tobacco policy (GFPHD will educate non-compliant retailers).

Sarah – Initiated Measure 3 will be on the ballots this year, regarding recreational marijuana. If this measure was voted into law, some things would occur at is a concern to the coalition: 1.) Allow for no penalty for use of marijuana anywhere, which would supersede GF’s smoke-free law. 2.) Anyone could grow any amount of marijuana in their backyard for use or to sell. There is no structure in this measure for taxing or regulations; it would be a free-for-all with no rules. We receive some complaints from housing units about second-hand tobacco smoke, and most

likely get a lot more complaints if marijuana is allowed to be smoked anywhere. There are recent articles that show youths utilizing tobacco delivery devices (such as the Juul) to take marijuana. Also, how do you discern between an 18-year old (legal age to use tobacco products) and a 21-year old (legal age to use cannabis products).

The tobacco-prevention team has been working with Thompson's Park Board and Girl Scouts for last couple of years to implement a Comprehensive Tobacco Free Parks Policy. The Girl Scouts chose this project to achieve the Girl Scouts Silver Award (second-highest award that can be attained). We have been helping them with education and advocacy on how to implement such a policy. They worked hard to advocate and educate on why City Leaders should adopt a policy. They really stepped up and created change! Mickey Munson, Thompson's Park Board President, signed the policy on September 17<sup>th</sup>. We are now working with them to promote their new policy by providing signage.

Michelle – Altru having Healthcare Horizons this month. Nicole is giving a Motivational Interview Talk on October 22nd & 23rd, on how she educates patients about tobacco. She also does telemedicine for 13 regional clinics for tobacco cessation, which went live last March.

LeAnn – There is no longer a lung cancer screening program at Altru (due to Jackie leaving for new job in Crookston). They will now have to be ordered by their PCM. October 17th is Altru's 'Pretty in Pink' breast cancer celebration, from 6-8 pm.

Bethany – Polk County's tobacco-free policy is still being worked on, and currently being reviewed by the county attorney. Tobacco compliance checks were done in EGF back in June, with three failures. After education, these were redone last week and all passed.

#### **V.Next Meeting—12/11/18**

#### **VI.Upcoming Events:**

- Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Meeting, October 23rd – 24th, Bismarck
- Election Day, November 6th
- GFPHD Legislative Breakfast, November 20th, 7:30 am
- 66th ND Legislative Assembly begins, January 3rd, Bismarck

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**The Grand Forks Tobacco Free Coalition is a group of citizens working together to create and promote a healthier, tobacco-free community through education, legislation, and enforcement of policies.**